

ABSTRACT

An animation creating apparatus that realizes more expressive "talking animation" by simplifying interface functions of a voiced/silent decision section and animation creating section and providing these sections in independent configurations, and that flexibly support various animation creating schemes and enable portable terminals to have lip-sync animation creating functions.

10 In this apparatus, voiced/silent decision section 102 outputs degrees of voicedness of input speech signal (called "degree of voicedness") and outputs them to animation creating section 103. Animation creating section 103 stores three images of a closed mouth,

15 half-opened mouth and opened mouth, selects corresponding images from the three images by deciding the degree of voicedness input from voiced/silent decision section 102 with decision criteria in 3 stages of L, M, S, and performing a state transition, creates "talking

20 animation" and outputs it to display section 104.

FIG.1

502 VOICED/SILENT DECISION SECTION

503 ANIMATION CREATING SECTION

504 DISPLAY SECTION

5

FIG.2

HALF-OPENED MOUTH

OPENED MOUTH

CLOSED MOUTH

10

FIG.3

102 VOICED/SILENT DECISION SECTION

103 ANIMATION CREATING SECTION

104 DISPLAY SECTION

15

FIG.4A

INPUT SPEECH

VOICED INTERVAL

20 FIG.4B

DEGREE OF VOICEDNESS OUTPUT

VOICED

SILENT

25 FIG.5

HALF-OPENED MOUTH

OPENED MOUTH

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18

CLOSED MOUTH